



*Town of Apex*

P. O. BOX 250  
APEX, NORTH CAROLINA 27502

KEITH H. WEATHERLY  
MAYOR

November 4, 2011

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 11-65

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the FCC:

Our community could make a claim to being "the Apex" of North Carolina's famed Research Triangle (geometrically speaking). We are close enough to the big research centers of the region to have a strong vested interest in access to high-speed mobile broadband. For that reason, I ask for your positive consideration of the proposed merger of wireless carriers AT&T Wireless and T-Mobile USA.

You are already well aware of the \$8 billion investment in 4G LTE capacity to which AT&T has committed if the merger goes forward. I would like to expand on what that investment could mean for the municipality of Apex. We are sometimes described as a bedroom community for Raleigh, but we are also concerned about economic development right here in our town of 35,000 people. Widespread availability of 4G LTE would give us the ability to support high-tech, taxpaying and job creating businesses in Apex.

Broadband connections are the foundation for our economic future, and crucial to the quality of life we can offer residents. This is akin to the role steam railroad connections served in our past. Back in 1900, Apex and the railroads were vital partners. Today our residents are proud our revitalized downtown and listed in the National Register of Historic Places as one of the best examples of a turn-of-the-century railroad town.

As much delight as we take in our railroading history, we have to live in the broadband future. Your approval of the AT&T Wireless/T-Mobile merger would help secure that future for Apex. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Keith H. Weatherly  
Mayor

